



LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission Minutes

Date: Thursday February 16, 2023

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Conducted by Hybrid Participation -Arlington Community Center HHS Conference Room and via Zoom

This was a hybrid meeting.

Present: Co-chair Helene Newberg, Commissioners: Laura Gitleson, Lisa Krinsky, Paloma Cotton-Herman, Molly Blaauw-Gillis, Andy Robinson, Kari Sasportas, Kym Goldsmith

Absent: Susan Ryan-Vollmar

Guests: Michael Cunningham, Deputy Town Counsel, Tim Ross, ADA Coordinator

Minutes

1. Remote Participation Statement and Guidelines – HN
 - a. Land Acknowledgement – HN
 - b. Review and approval of January 2023 Minutes
 - i. Minutes approved
2. Presentation by Town Counsel about Commission bylaws - Michael Cunningham
 - a. Complimented the way the RC runs
 - b. Presented a slide show that included history of the commission as well as reminding us of our charge from Town Meeting
3. Working Group Updates
 - a. Communications
 - i. Kari & Susan met on 1/25
 - ii. Talked about creating an editorial calendar
 - iii. Highlight awareness weeks/months - e.g. this month is Black History Month, highlighting on Instagram/Facebook
 - iv. Events
 - v. Kari is updating guidelines for social media
 - vi. Promotion of Instagram account
 - vii. Folder in google drive for graphics/posters for promoting events
 - viii. Standard email header for requests to promote on social
 - ix. Do we want to use software to pre-schedule postings - this could be a

budget issue? Town uses loomly we could get an account

- b. Town Systems & Policies
 - i. Met 1/30 Kari, Susan, Jillian & Michael
 - ii. Talked about setting goals for the upcoming year
 - iii. Talked about the Town Equity Audit - potential follow-up issues
 - iv. Reviewing policies, survey tools, incident reporting, investigation procedures
 - v. Jill recommended looking at towns ADA self-evaluation form, could use for gender neutral restrooms, etc.
 - vi. Municipal Equality Index
 - vii. Envision Arlington survey
 - 1. CPAC - Rainbow Commission has to make a nomination
 - 2. Motion to nominate Susan by Kari, seconded by Laura, unanimous vote
- c. Community Engagement
 - i. Mapped out calendar for the year -
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1RQEJNtqow6mG17SWA_grU9dsJqy_fZqs/edit - , color coded
- d. Finance
- e. Schools
 - i. Kim Visco has looked at health and wellness curriculum and connected with Julie Fenn to revamp curriculum with significant updates
 - ii. 4th and 5th grade puberty curriculum is truly inclusive
 - iii. Teachers are trained
 - iv. YRBS survey is underway
 - v. Next community conversation March 13 focus on libraries, held at high school
 - vi. Mid-April for parent/caregiver workshop
 - vii. May pride event at the high school
 - viii. PD district wide is underway (Safe Schools)
- 4. Liaison Updates
 - a. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)
 - i. Arlington Reads
 - ii. Equity Audit
 - iii. Disability Commission event
 - b. Police Department (APD)
 - i. Graffiti at Blue Bike station
 - ii. Completed interviews for animal control officer
 - iii. Chief Flaherty released a statement condemning the murder of Tyre Nichols by former Memphis police officers
 - c. GSA/QSA-AHS/Ottoson/Gibbs
 - i. AHS GSA has invited speakers from libraries, BAGLY, and elsewhere
 - ii. Finalizing details of fundraiser for GLAAD

- d. Library
 - i. Library director recently met with Chief Flaherty to create safety plan in response to increased bias-related incidents taking place at libraries around the state
 - ii. Pride Prom, an alternative prom for LGBTQ+ teens and their friends, will take place on May 19
- e. Select Board
- f. Council on Aging
- 5. Public Engagement and Open Commentary
- 6. Close and Next Meeting. Thursday, March 16, 2023. 6:30pm Hybrid.

Adjourned 7:43

Commission members not able to attend please email dei@town.arlington.ma.us prior to the scheduled meeting.

Anyone needing accessibility information or other assistance in order to attend this meeting should contact dei@town.arlington.ma.us. This meeting is open to all interested individuals.

LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission
Consent Agenda: January–February 2023

1. January 18, 2023 – Network for Social Justice email
2. January 18, 2023 – Arlington Center for the Arts email
3. January 18, 2023 – Arlington DEI Director forwarded an intro email from city of Somerville's new LGBTQ+ Services Coordinator
4. January 20, 2023 – Network for Social Justice email
5. January 24, 2023 – Marketing solicitation from Southwest Showcase
6. January 25, 2023 – Lexington Youth Counseling Center email 7.
January 25, 2023 – Arlington Center for the Arts email
8. January 25, 2023 – Interview request from the Times of London re: Arlington's Domestic Partnership bylaw
9. January 27, 2023 – Network for Social Justice email
10. January 27, 2023 – Request from Diversity Task Group of Envision Arlington that Rainbow Commission participate in meeting to plan townwide recruitment of nominees to Arlington Civilian Police Advisory Commission
11. January 31, 2023 – Follow up from Diversity Task Group of Envision Arlington re: Rainbow Commission participation in meeting to plan townwide recruitment of nominees to Arlington Civilian Police Advisory Commission
12. February 1, 2023 – Arlington Center for the Arts email
13. February 1, 2023 – Request to publicize recruitment request for Aging with Pride: National Health, Aging, Gender/Sexuality Study by survey investigators 14. February 2, 2023 – Network for Social Justice email
15. February 4, 2023 – Notice from Diversity Task Group of Envision that planned meeting re: townwide recruitment of nominees to Arlington Civilian Police Advisory Commission has been indefinitely postponed
16. February 8, 2023 – Marketing email from Testing.com
17. February 10, 2023 – Network for Social Justice email